

THE TWILITE ZONE

Yeti, Yeren, Sasquatch, Yowie

Chinese scientific tests on strands of human-like, coarse hair found in central and southern China in the last four years revealed that the specimens do not belong to any known animal. Scientists speculate that the hair may have come from a Chinese 'big foot', known as *yeren*. (see *Twilite Zone* No. 5).

This follows last year's sighting by Russian researchers who reported coming within 35 yards of a Yeti, which made several night visits to their Central Asian camp.

Professor Grover Krantz, an archaeologist from Washington State University, is planning to hunt a Sasquatch in the Pacific Northwest. Having conducted field trips and researched Sasquatch for 20 years, he intends to look for a decomposing body left over from last winter.

Prof. Krantz said he would only kill one as a last resort, hoping to establish proof for the existence of these beings to protect them from extinction.

Peter Mathiessen reported in the *Spirit of Crazy Horse* that traditional native American communities "know of a messenger who appears in evil times as a warning from The Creator that man's disrespect for his sacred instructions has upset the harmony and balance of existence..."

"He has strong powers and sometimes takes the form of a huge, hairy man."

These hairy people are referred to in legends of native peoples all over the world, including Australia's Yowie.

TASS, AP, *Shaman's Drum*

Death by Democracy

Holy Tyranny of the majority! Robin, well-known ward of the Caped Crusader, has been voted out of non-existence.

Comic artists and writers blew up Batman's offside in an October *Batman* comic; the Joker, disguised as an Iranian ambassador to the UN, finally split up the dynamic duo by blowing Robin to smithereens.

Robin was killed off by a readership vote of 5,343 to 5,271 because he was a "lwerp" and a "vindictive, vengeful little brat," a spokesperson for DC comics announced.



VIRGIN BIRTH

A 15 year old London virgin from Lesotho, South Africa has given birth to a baby boy. The girl was told she would never have a baby because she had no vagina, but something unusual happened. After having oral sex with a new boyfriend she was stabbed in the stomach by a jealous ex-lover. Doctors believe the sperm she swallowed somehow reached her womb while she was treated for the wound. Nine months later she gave birth after being admitted to hospital with stomach pains.

"Sperm must have been flushed out of the stomach, up the fallopian tubes into the womb," a doctor said.

"The baby resembles his father which excludes an even more miraculous conception," reported the British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

Next Temptation of Brian

It was a dark and stormy night ... the 13th of October '88 ... there I was, prowling the wilds of George Street, Sydney, when suddenly I heard an eldritch chant ring out behind me....

"Oh, I'm a lumberjack and I'm okay, I sleep all night and I work all day, I chop down trees, I skip and jump, I like to press wild flowers; I put on women's clothing and hang around in bars..."

Spinning in my tracks I beheld a group of bizarre figures marching south: a Roman centurion, a horned Knight, an English businessman, two Gumbies and the Grim Reaper! Flanked by assorted weirdos, these creatures were marching with determination towards the Greater Union theatre, where they were awaited by hundreds of hymn-singing, Bible-waving cultists, punk rockers, hippies, news reporters and police. Quickly poking my third eye into a nearby lump of *akasha*, I used my inner vision to ascertain the Ultimate Truth.

These people were all here to celebrate or oppose the opening of Martin Scorsese's film, *The Last Temptation of Christ*. The self-styled "Christians" led by the Rev Fred Nile were in a frothing rage because the movie dared to depict their idol as a divine human being, while the Sydney (*Monty*) Python Appreciation Movement were in a frothing rage because the movie failed to acknowledge Brian as the True Messiah. The police were there because they liked minding other people's business.

A heavy hired security presence ensured that patrons were able to see this extraordinary film, the Christian religious statement of the decade.

Transcending the mundane physical reality, I made my way back to Nirvana, vowing that I would visit this fascinating dimension again.

- Guru Swami Lama Sri Buddha Rama Bananananda



Date Shrouded

So you thought you wouldn't hear anything else about the Shroud of Turin, that notorious relic showing the reverse image of a brutalised bearded man.

Three separate laboratories independently tested the Shroud using Carbon-14 dating methods and pronounced it a forgery last October, placing its age at somewhere between 1260 and 1390 AD.

But now an American archaeologist has revealed that earlier secret tests in 1982 gave different results and that preparations for dating the Shroud were incorrectly handled.

William Meacham of the University of Hong Kong was one of 22 experts who took part in a 1986 conference the Vatican organised for dating the relic.

"The lab work was very sophisticated, but the planning and sampling methodology was very shabby," he said.

"The samples were taken from a repaired corner which had been... scorched in a fire in 1532. The C-14 date may reflect the influence of the 1532 fire rather than the actual age of the linen." He said that these portions of the Shroud had been subjected to at least 300°C and that samples should have been taken from other sections.

The two secret tests were conducted with identical techniques on two halves of a thread removed in 1973. One half dated at 200 AD and the other at 1,000 AD, Mr Meacham said.

- Agence France Presse